

Montrose Bridge Club Constitution.

1. NAME OF CLUB

The Club shall be called Montrose Bridge Club. The club year will be from September 1 until April 30 although it will be permissible to run a summer club from May 1 until August 31.

2. OBJECT

The object of the club shall be

- a) To promote and encourage the development of Duplicate Bridge in the local area in accordance with the rules laid down by the Scottish Bridge Union.
- b) To promote a warm and friendly atmosphere at the bridge table.
- c) To provide teams or pairs to represent the club in Local or District Matches or Leagues.

These objectives are to be achieved through an annual calendar of bridge duplicate sessions.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The membership shall consist of Honorary, Ordinary, Junior (under 25), and Summer Members. Membership is invoked on the 2nd week of attendance at a Montrose duplicate bridge event.

The first week of attendance shall be free, with an annual charge of £10 thereafter. (subject to review at the AGM).

There are no restrictions to membership, other than, all members must support the objectives of the club and adhere to the laws and ethics of Bridge, as defined by the Scottish Bridge Union.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The subscription fee for each category of member will be determined at the Annual General Meeting. Those members who have paid their SBU membership through another club must indicate which club.

5. MANAGEMENT

- a. The management of the club shall be vested in a General Management Committee (hereinafter called "the Committee") consisting of a President, Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, (the posts of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined), and five other club members to be elected annually at the AGM. Three members of the Committee will form a quorum.
- b. Nominations for election of the Office Bearers and Members of The Committee shall be in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder, who must be Ordinary Members, and shall be lodged with the Secretary at least seven days before the AGM.

- c. The President's term of office shall not exceed three consecutive years although he/she may be re-elected after a gap of no less than one year. Committee members, excepting the Secretary and Treasurer, may serve for three consecutive years but shall be eligible for re-election for a further year in order to maintain continuity in the Committee.
- d. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring in their number in the course of the year and to co-opt additional members if deemed necessary. The Committee may also establish sub-committees for special purposes.
- e. An Auditor shall be elected for the ensuing year at the AGM and, in the event of a vacancy occurring during the year, the Committee shall have the power to fill that vacancy for the remainder of that year.
- f. The Committee shall meet at such times as deemed necessary for the transaction of business but must meet a minimum of three times per year.
- g. The Secretary shall take minutes of all Committee meetings, which when approved by the Committee, shall be available to all club members. The Secretary shall also be responsible for keeping a register of all club members.
- h. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of the income and expenditure of the club and shall prepare the accounts for audit no less than one month prior to the AGM. The accounts shall be audited by the Auditor and a copy of the audited accounts made available to all members prior to the AGM.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the club shall be held during the month of April on a date fixed by the Committee. Notification of the date, time and place of the meeting will be intimated to all members at least seven days prior to the meeting. All elections shall be by ballot.
- b. Any notices of motion, duly proposed and seconded, must be in the hands of the Secretary at least one month prior to the AGM, and issued to all members with the notice of the AGM. All Ordinary members will be entitled to vote and the President shall have a deliberative vote, and in the case of a tie, a casting vote.

7. EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETINGS

- a. The Committee shall have the power to call an Extra-ordinary meeting of the Club at any time and shall be bound to call one within one calendar month of receiving a written requisition signed by at least six members. Any such requisition shall specify the object or objects of the meeting and only these objects may be discussed at the meeting.
- b. At all meetings of the club twelve members shall form a quorum.

8. HONORARY MEMBERS

It shall be competent for the Committee, in recognition of renown as a Bridge player, or of service rendered to the Club, or for any other reason it deems sufficient, to confer the distinction of Honorary Membership. Honorary members shall have all the privileges of full membership.

9. SUMMER MEMBERS

Persons wishing to play bridge during the summer months only may join as Summer Members. Such membership is restricted to the period May 1 to August 31.

10. JUNIOR MEMBERS

Young people under the age of 25 on September 1 of any year shall be eligible for Junior Membership for that year and such members shall not be liable to pay an entry fee. Their table money will be half that of Ordinary members

11. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- a. All disciplinary powers of the club are vested in the Committee. Montrose Bridge Club will adapt and follow SBU guidelines and best practice on disciplinary matters
- b. The Committee shall have the power, by a majority, to suspend for such period as they may determine, any member whose conduct, in the opinion of the Committee, is prejudicial to the reputation, interests or good order of the Club. Any such member shall have the right of appeal to an Appeals Committee consisting of three club members none of whom are on the Committee. these members to be elected annually at the AGM.
- c. The Committee shall have power in its discretion to uplift any suspension imposed at a date earlier than that fixed originally by the Committee, and in imposing a suspension the Committee may, at its discretion, make the uplifting of the suspension conditional.

12. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Alterations to the Constitution can only be made at the AGM or EGM. Any proposal to alter the Constitution shall be intimated in writing to the Secretary at least one month prior to the AGM, or one prior to an EGM.

Adopted at the Montrose Bridge Club, Annual General Meeting; Tuesday 10 April 2012
Amended at AGM Tuesday 16th April 2013
Amended at AGM Tuesday 15th April 2014

Signed

Montrose Bridge Club President MARK EVANS

Signed

Montrose Bridge Club Secretary SARAH WILLIAMS